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News Release - 1973-10-12

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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

OCTOBER 12, 1973

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- Rep Kika de la Garza announced Friday that members of the Interstate Commerce Commission have assured him that an immediate study is being launched of freight rates which, the Congressman said, discriminate against South Texas.

Rep de la Garza recently introduced a bill in the House of Representatives requiring the ICC to investigate certain interstate freight rates for the purpose of determining whether they are unjust or unreasonable.

At the Friday meeting, held in the Congressman's office, the commissioners said the forthcoming study would not only focus on the problem in South Texas but also would be extended to cover 14 or 15 basic commodities throughout the United States.

"The commissioners said they will cooperate with us to the fullest possible extent in determining the facts about this important matter," de la Garza said. "They see the need for the investigation I recommended and are showing laudable foresight in expanding the study."

In introducing the bill calling for an investigation, the South Texas Congressman declared that the area is unfairly penalized by discrimination in interstate freight rates for agricultural products, raw materials and manufactured products. His bill provides that if the ICC finds such discrimination exists appropriate remedial action shall be taken.

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